

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/518,273

Applicant(s)

PEETERS, ADRIANUS MARINUS
GERARDUS

Examiner

JAMES C. KERVEROS

Art Unit

2117

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/28/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 20080205.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JAMES C. KERVEROS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

This is a Notice of Allowance in response to the Amendment filed 12/28/2007.

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) to (EPO) 02077495.6, filed 06/21/2002. The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. 10/518,273, filed: 09/02/2005.

The present US Application is a 371 of PCT/IB03/02387, filed 06/05/2003.

Rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, with respect to the expression "the times" for failing to properly define relative delay between different time intervals or periods, has been withdrawn in view of the amendment to the claims.

Claims 1-7 were previously pending in the Application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Drawings

The drawings filed on 8/6/2007 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities as indicated by the Examiner. The handwritten descriptive notations in Figs. 1 and 6 of the "Replacement Sheets" should be replaced with formal descriptive

notations. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

Applicant is reminded that the Patent and Trademark Office no longer makes drawing changes and that it is applicant's responsibility to ensure that the drawings are corrected in accordance with the Examiner's requirements as set forth in the present Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 are allowed.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior arts of record taken alone or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest or render obvious an electronic circuit recited in the independent claim 1, including among other limitations, "a delay element coupled to cause a relative delay between the time intervals after which signals at the inputs of the interface element affect the interface element, and a control circuit for selectively activating the relative delay caused by the delay element prior to sampling an output signal of the interface element".

Similarly, independent claim 7 recites a method of testing an electronic circuit, including among other limitations, "causing a difference between the time intervals after which the test signal source affects different ones of the signals at the inputs, the test control circuit activating said difference in the test mode and keeping the difference deactivated in the normal operating mode".

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Consequently, claims 1-7 are allowed over the prior arts of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES C. KERVEROS whose telephone number is (571) 272-3824. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques H. Louis-Jacques can be reached on (571) 272-4150. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

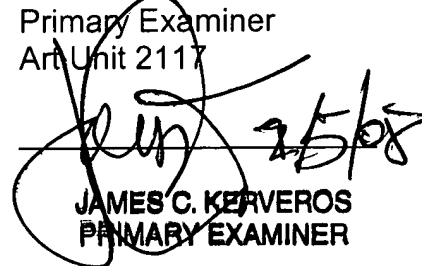
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Date: 5 February 2008
Office Action: Allowance

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JAMES C KERVEROS
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Art Unit 2117

 2/5/08
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